

Response Worker Health and Safety in a Post-Katrina World: Protecting the Protectors

Satellite Conference & Live Webcast

Tuesday, October 25, 2005 • 12:00-1:30 p.m. (Central Time)

1:00-2:30 p.m. (Eastern Time) • 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) • 10:00-11:30 a.m. (Pacific Time)

Hurricane Katrina's aftermath forcefully reminds us that natural disasters can pose a wide range of health and safety risks to first responders, health care and public health workers, volunteers and others responsible for protecting and assisting the public, just as do industrial incidents and terrorist attacks. In addition to physical and physiological hazards, it is increasingly clear that the range of protectors also face psychological hazards, particularly significant, but not confined, to mass casualty events. With the encouragement of the Worker Safety and Health Committee of the National Response Team, the UMDNJ - School of Public Health's New Jersey Center for Public Health Preparedness and the Johns Hopkins Center for Public Health Preparedness recently held a conference on this subject, which included data and other information on the long-term medical and psychological toll of the World Trade Center and other similar events, the experience of the US military, particularly on the psychological consequences of disasters, as well as presentations by OSHA, the US Department of Homeland Security, and non-governmental experts as well. The Co-Chair of the conference will present the key points resulting from the conference, and provide insights as to how these are being applied to the current situation on the Gulf Coast.

Faculty:

Glenn Paulson, PhD
Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
University of Medicine and Dentistry, New Jersey - School of Public Health
and Director of the New Jersey Center for Public Health Preparedness

Program Objectives:

1. To present the "state of the art" on the inter-related and complex issues of medical surveillance, environmental assessment and psychological impact of natural, accidental, and intentional disasters on worker health and safety.
2. To describe the implications of the experience of the US military for civilian responders.
3. To describe the occupational health and safety lessons from the World Trade Center, the anthrax attacks, hurricanes, and other events.
4. To summarize the current activities in the aftermath of Katrina and Rita to protect the health and safety of the various groups of response workers.

Conference Details:

Target Audience: Public health, healthcare, and mental health professionals, first responders and first receivers, emergency managers, leaders of volunteer and faith-based organizations that assist affected communities.

Registration: www.adph.org/alphntn **Cost:** There is no cost to view.

Satellite Technical Information: This program will be a live satellite broadcast on both Ku & C bands.

Webcast Information: Please register at www.adph.org/alphntn. To view this live webcast, you will need RealPlayer 9.0 or Windows Media Player 9.0 or 10. This program will also be available as an on-demand webcast beginning October 27th.

Conference Materials: Posted on our website approximately one week before the program.

Questions For Faculty: If you have questions that you want addressed during the conference, you may fax or email those questions and a response will be given during the program.

Email: alphntnquestions@adph.state.al.us or Fax: 888-737-1972.

If you have questions about any of these conference details, call 334-206-5618 or email alphntn@adph.state.al.us

The South Central Center for Public Health Preparedness is a partnership of the state health departments in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi and the Schools of Public Health at UAB, UAMS and Tulane University with funding from the CDC.

alabama public health training network